

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10

SS-15 STR-08 CEA-02 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

SCEM-02 IO-15 DRC-01 /202 W

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R 281250Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7177

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 2181

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SU

SUBJ: VISIT OF SAUDI FINANCIER

REF: EMB KHARTOUM MEMCON, SEPT 13 (NOTAL)

1. WELL-KNOWN BEIRUT-BASED SAUDI FINANCIER ADNAN KASHOGGI, HEAD TRIAD CORP. APPRIVED KHARTOUM SEPT 24 UNANNOUNCED WITH ENTOURAGE OF SOME 17 PERSONS, REPORTEDLY INCLUDING REPS OF FIRMS FROM US, ITALY, JAPAN, UK AND FRANCE. AIRCRAFT GRANTED UNUSUAL VIP PRIVILEGES AUTHORIZED FROM PRESIDENT'S OFFICE. VISIT KEPT OUT OF PRESS UNTIL SEPT 27 WHEN IT WAS ANNOUNCED PRESIDENT NIMEIRI HAD MADE ONE-DAY VISIT TO JUBA TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF REGION, ACCOMPANIED BY KASHOGGI.

2. PRIOR DEPARTURE KASHOGGI GROUP SEPT 27 THREE AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN, GEN MGR LAULER, MANAGING DIR THOMPSON AND LOCKHEED MID-EAST PRESIDENT CONLEY, CALLED ON AMBASSADOR. DURING DISCUSSION, THEY INDICATED VISIT SUDAN

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RESULT PERSONAL INVITATION PRESIDENT NIMEIRI, WITH SOME

DEGREE SAG ENCOURAGEMENT. GROUP SAID AGREEMENTS BEING SIGNED FOR THREE FEASIBILITY STUDIES LOOKING TOWARD POSSIBLE TRIAD PARTICIPATION IN (A) MERCHANT BANK - CAPITALIZATION 50 PERCENT TRIAD - 5 PERCENT GOS; (B) CONSTRUCTION MINIMUM CAPACITY 100,000 BBLD EXPORT OIL REFINERY, ESTIMATED \$100 MILLION FINANCING WHICH WOULD BE NO PROBLEM SHOULD SAG DECIDE FOR POLITICAL REASONS PROVIDE LONG-TERM (15 YR) CRUDE CONTRACT; (C) UP-GRADING INTERNAL AIR NETWORK POSSIBLY THROUGH NEW OR SECONDHAND ACFT; AND (D) AGRI-BUSINESS INVESTMENT (SUCH AS INTEGRATED CATTLE RANCH OR PLANTATIONS). NIMEIRI VISIT JUBA HAD BEEN ON KASHOGGI'S PLANE. LATTER HAD DONATED JUBA LIBRARY AND CINEMA (PLUS GENERATOR) WHICH TRIAD WILL BUILD.

3. COMMENT: CLEAR NEITHER KASHOGGI NOR VISITING AMERICAPN HAD MUCH KNOWLEDGE OF SUDAN. VISIT WOULD

APPEAR POLITICALLY ARRANGED (PERHAPS THROUGH DIRECT SALXGOS CONTACTS AT NAC IN ALGIERS) AND IS CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT GOS STRESS (BEING HANDLED DIRECTLY BY PRESIDENT'S OFFICE) OF (A) BYPASSING BUREAUCRACY TO GET MAXIMUM NUMBER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS UNDERWAY, AND (B) AVIDLY SEEKING DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL. ATTRACTING INTEREST RED SEA NEIGHBOR SAUDI ARABIA (AND KUWAIT AS PER CURRENTLY POSTPONED STATE VISIT BY AMIR) IS IMPORTANT SUDANESE OBJECTIVE. WE UNAWARE EXTENT TO WHICH VISIT MAY REFLECT SAG INSPIRATION, BUT WOULD WELCOME EMB JIDDA'S COMMENTS. FROM VIEWPOINT USG INTERESTS, WE BELIEVE CLOSER TIES BETWEEN TWO MODERATE, ADJACENT ARAB STATES WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL AND SHOULD BE QUIETLY ENCOURAGED. IN FACT, IF SAG ITSELF WERE INTERESTED PROVIDING SOME FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP NIMEIRI REGIME MOVE TOWARDS ITS DEVELOPMENT GOALS, WE BELIEVE COMMERCIAL AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITY HERE FOR US FIRMS WOULD ALSO BE CREATED.

BJWER

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